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DEC 27 2005

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent & Trademark
In re Appln. Of: WITHERS et al.
Serial No.: 10/828,641
Filed: April 21, 2004
For: Thermal and Electrochemical Process For Metal Production
Group: 1742
DOCKET: MER 03.01

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATUS REQUEST

Dear Sir

Applicants have yet to receive an Action on the merits with respect to the above

referenced application. Please advise of the status of this application. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

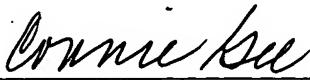
Respectfully submitted,



Norman P. Soloway
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 24,315

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on DECEMBER 22, 2005 at Tucson, Arizona.

By: 

HAYES SOLOWAY P.C.
3450 E. SUNRISE DRIVE
SUITE 140
TUCSON, AZ 85718
TEL. 520.882.7623
FAX. 520.882.7643

175 CANAL STREET
MANCHESTER, NH 03101
TEL. 603.668.1400
FAX. 603.668.8567